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**San Luis Obispo Ministerial Association &
September 11 Commemoration Organizing Committee**

Aug. 27, 2002

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 11 Memorial Services, Events Planned Countywide

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- The San Luis Obispo Ministerial Association, including the Newman Catholic Center, Lutheran Campus Ministry, University Christian Center, and other organizing groups are inviting the community to participate in events planned around the county marking the anniversary of September 11.

On Sept. 10 in San Luis Obispo, the September 11 Commemoration Organizing Committee will sponsor a 12-hour candlelight vigil beginning at 7 p.m. in Mission Plaza. A short opening ceremony will mark the beginning of the vigil, and throughout the night the names of those whose lives were lost in the September 11 tragedies in New York, Washington, D.C., and Pennsylvania will be read aloud -- as well as names of those servicemen and women and Afghan civilians lost in the subsequent U.S. bombing campaign.

The community is welcome to be present for any length of time during the nighttime vigil, and asked to please bring candles to hold. Organizers are looking for volunteers available to sign up for one-hour slots for the continuous reading of the names. Volunteers can contact Sister Mary Pat White of the Newman Catholic Center, 543-4105, to sign up.

The vigil will end at 7:00 a.m. Sept. 11, following a closing ceremony beginning at 6:30 a.m. Please contact Sister Mary Pat White for more information at (805) 543-4105.

At noon on Sept. 11, a lunch hour memorial service will be held at Mission Plaza in downtown San Luis Obispo. The 30-minute interfaith service will include readings from several religious traditions, special music by Rev. Ron Griffen of San Luis Obispo Methodist Church, a series of short reflections by local clergy, and will close with a time for prayer.

The Women in Black, an international movement of women who mourn the loss of life because of war, will be present in silent witness during the memorial service. This worship service of remembrance is open to the entire community. Contact Rev. Helen Carroll, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Luis Obispo County, for more information on the noontime service at 544-1669.

In the North County, the North County Interfaith Association is sponsoring a service of remembrance on September 11 in Templeton at the Templeton Park, 550 Crocker Street. Live music will begin at 6:00 p.m., followed by the worship service from 6:30-7:30 p.m. For more details about the service, contact Diane Lee at 462-9378.

On the North Coast, church bells in Cambria will ring at 12:00 noon on September 11 as part of a silent vigil. For details on the North County and Cambria events, contact Rev. Wren Wilcox, Community Church of Atascadero at 466-9108.

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